UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE AT WINCHESTER

| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA |) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| |) Case No. 4:17-cr-26 |
| v. |) |
| |) Judge McDonough/Steger |
| MARY ANN MORRIS |) |

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b), the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge conducted a plea hearing in this case on November 2, 2017. At the hearing, Defendant entered a plea of guilty to Count One of the two count Indictment. On the basis of the record made at the hearing, the Court finds that Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering an informed plea; the plea is made knowingly and with full understanding of each of the rights waived by Defendant; it is made voluntarily and free from any force, threats, or promises; Defendant understands the nature of the charges and penalties provided by law; and the plea has a sufficient basis in fact. Acceptance of the plea, adjudication of guilt, and imposition of sentence are specifically reserved for the District Court Judge.

I therefore recommend that the Court: (1) grant Defendant's motion to withdraw her not guilty plea as to Count One of the two count Indictment; (2) accept Defendant's guilty plea as to Count One of the two count Indictment; (3) adjudicate Defendant guilty of knowingly stealing mail containing gift cards and other items from the United States Mail which mail was entrusted to her and intended to be conveyed by mail and carried by an employee of the Postal Service, in violation of Title 18 United States Code Section 1709; and (4) order that Defendant remain out of custody until sentencing in this matter or further order of this Court.

The Defendant's sentencing hearing is scheduled on March 9, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

ENTER.

/s/Christopher H. Steger UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

NOTICE TO PARTIES

You have the right to *de novo* review by the district judge of the foregoing findings. Any application for review must be in writing; must specify the portions of the findings or proceedings objected to; and must be filed and served no later than fourteen (14) days after the plea hearing. Failure to file objections within fourteen days constitutes a waiver of any further right to challenge the plea of guilty in this matter. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b).